

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/749,285

Confirmation No. 5735

Applicant

Gene R. Anderson et al.

Filed:

December 26, 2000

TC/A.U.

2874

Examiner

Nguyen, Son V.

Docket No.

1613370-0012

Customer No.:

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop I.D.S., Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 4, 2004

Melissa McCool Name

Signature

March 4, 2004

Date

## SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop I.D.S. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

Applicants submit the present information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c). This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

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search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Applicants believe that the fee due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is \$180.00, however, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: March 4, 2004

lames M. Ww (Reg. No. 45,241)

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known			
Application Number	09/749,285		
Filing Date	December 26, 2000		
First Named Inventor	Gene R. Anderson		
Art Unit	2874		
Examiner Name	Nguyen, Son V.		
Attorney Docket Number	1613370-0012		

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 3,996,461	12-07-1976	Sulzbach et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,6,92,883	09-08-1987	Nelson et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,708,833	11-24-1987	Ohsawa et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,883,956	11-28-1989	Melcher et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,028,724	02-22-2000	Leib	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,097,873	08-01-2000	Filas et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,181,854 B1	01-30-2001	Kojima et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 6,411,638 B1	06-25-2002	Johnson et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	
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Examiner	Date	·
Signature	Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.